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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 MBFR-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 AID-20 CEA-02 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

RSR-01 /168 W
---------- 096115
R 161651Z JUL 73
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1818
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOFORN PARIS 19401

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, FR, EC, PARM
SUBJECT: QUAI VIEWS ON US-EC AND INTRA-EC RELATIONS

1. QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS TOLD EMBOFFS JULY 11 HE EXPECTED TO NEXT FIVE YEARS WOULD BE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT ONES BOTH FOR US-EC AND FOR INTRA-EC RELATIONS. HOWEVER, HE WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT BOTH SETS OF
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RELATIONSHIPS WOULD ESTABLISH NEW EQUILIBRIUM RESULTING IN A

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MORE UNIFIED WESTERN EUROPE AND A MORE "BALANCED" US-
EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIP FOLLOWING THIS PERIOD. END SUMMARY.

2. DEFENSE AND EC POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS: QUAI OFFICIAL SAID
HE EXPECTED EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS MIGHT BEGIN DISCUSSING
DEFENSE ISSUES AS PART OF THEIR OVERALL WORK PROGRAM. HE NOTED
THIS WOULD BE IN KEEPING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT'S JUNE
19 SPEECH. HE ALSO IMPLICITY ACKNOWLEDGED THIS WOULD MARK A
NEW DEPARTURE SINCE FRANCE HAD UP TO NOW OPPOSED EC POLITICAL
DIRECTORS DISCUSSING DEFENSE ISSUES, WITH THE RECENT EXCEPTION OF
CONSIDERING THE ITALIAN MBFR PAPER.

3. QUAI OFFICIAL SAID FRENCH SAW NO CONFLICT BETWEEN EC
DISCUSSIONS OF DEFENSE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES OF EUROGROUP.
NEITHER FRANCE NOR IRELAND WAS MEMBER OF LATTER, HE NOTED,
AND THERE WAS NO REASON WHY DEFENSE DISCUSSIONS AMONG EC NINE
COULD NOT BE SEPARATED FROM EUROGROUP DISCUSSIONS AMONG SEVEN
OF NINE PLUS NORWAY.

4. DEFINING "EUROPEAN UNION;" QUAI OFFICIAL SAID FRENCH HAVE
NOT YET DEFINED THE FORM OF THE PROJECTED "EUROPEAN UNION."
HOWEVER, IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFFS' QUESTION, HE ACKNOWLEDGED
FRENCH WERE THINKING ALONG LINES OF DEVELOPING EUROPEAN UNION
OF THE BASIS OF TWO SEPARATE PILLARS; THE ONE, ECONOMIC,
BEING FOUNDED ON THE TREATY OF ROME, THE OTHER DEALING WITH
POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS AND TO "SOME EXTENT" PERHAPS DEFENSE.
BOTH OF THESE TWO SEPARATE PILLARS WOULD BE LINKED BY VARIOUS
COMMITTEES INVOLVING MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN BOTH ECONOMIC AND
POLITICAL ACTIVITIES AND WOULD BE CAPPED BY A "EUROPEAN UNION."
THE UNION, PERHAPS VIA THE DEVELOPMENT OF "EUROPEAN MINISTERS,"
COULD PROVIDE THE MAIN MEANS FOR EFFECTING COORDINATION BETWEEN
THE TWO PILLARS OF EUROPE.

5. QUAI OFFICIAL SAID DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPEAN UNION WOULD HAVE
TO PROCEED PRAGMATICALLY. HOWEVER, HE VOLUNTEERED FRENCH COULD
CONCEIVE OF A "EUROPEAN FEDERATION" TAKING SHAPE UNDER
THE TREATY OF ROME AND INVOLVING ONLY ECONOMIC SUBJECTS
COVERED BY THAT TREATY AND A SEPARATE EUROPEAN "CONFEDERATION"
GROUPING BROAD POLITICAL AND DEFENSE SUBJECTS. SUCH AN
EVOLUTION HE SAID SHOULD PROVIDE THE PRAGMATIC BASIS FOR
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EVENTUALLY CREATING A TRULY UNIFIED EUROPE.

6. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: NOTING THAT RECENT SESSION OF EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT SEEMED MORE ACTIVE THAN MOST, EMBOFF ASKED
QUAI OFFICIAL'S VIEWS OF FUTURE EVOLUTION OF THAT BODY. HE
RESPONDED THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT PARLIAMENT TO PLAY INCREASING
ROLE IN EC AFFAIRS, AND POINTED OUT THAT, FAR FROM BEING A TRUE
LEGISLATIVE BODY WITH SOVEREIGN LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY, IT WAS

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SIMPLY A CONSULTATIVE ORGAN WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT POWER.

7. COMMENT: QUAI OFFICIAL'S OUTLING OF FRENCH VIEWS ON EUROPEAN UNION, WHILE STILL VAGUE, REPRESENT CLEAREST FORECASE WE HAVE SEEN THUS FAR ON HOW GOF WOULD LIKE TO SEE EUROPEAN UNION DEVELOP. HAVING "POSED THE QUESTION" OF EUROPEAN DEFENSE, INCLUDING NO DOUBT SUGGESTING TO THEIR EC PARTNERS THAT THE SUBJECT COULD BE DISCUSSED IN THE EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS FORUM, THE FRENCH, TRADITIONALLY UNWILLING TO BE DEMANDEUR, ARE LIKELY NOW TO AWAIT THE REACTION OF THEIR EC PARTNERS.
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